



R'S

New Collegiate Dictionary

©

1976

a Merriam-Webster®

G. & C. MERRIAM COMPANY
Springfield, Massachusetts, U.S.A.

368

ATOMIC WEIGHT

(C = 12)
22.9898
87.62
12.06
180.9479
98.9062
127.60
158.9254
204.37
232.0381
168.9342
118.69
47.90
183.85
238.029
50.9414
131.30
173.04
88.9059
65.37
91.22

ng to, or being an
element b
te constituent of
il and social reali-
the rudiments of
crafts to the chil-
vt can ~ sense of
at force of nature
> — elemental n

1 a : of, relating
ples of something
: of or relating to
ELEMENTAL 1a, 1b
-lè, -men-trà-lè
-en-trè- n
hat makes up an
le of some viruses
copic constituents
r photon) whose
ion of other more

he first six or the

agrant oleoresins
and used chiefly

fr. Gk *elenchos*

& L; OF *olifant*,
various thickest
mammals that
elephantidae, the
into a muscular
esp. in the male
elated animal or



ha *elephantina*

-e-ses \-séz\
n; *elephas* 1
the enormous
obstruction of
usu. enormous
f intellect and

1 a : having
PONDEROUS 2

inga *angustiro-*
nally abundant
also : a related
f the southern

ligious myster-
Demeter and

fr. L. *elevatus*,
LEVER] 1 : to
EXALT 3 : to

369

improve morally, intellectually, or culturally 4 : to raise the
spirits of : ELATE *syn* see LIFT *ant* lower

el-e-vat-ed \-vát-əd/ *adj* 1 : raised esp. above the ground or
other surface <an ~ highway> 2 a : morally or intellectually on
a high plane <an ~ mind> b : FORMAL, DIGNIFIED <~ diction>
3 : exhilarated in mood or feeling

elevated railroad n : an urban or interurban railroad operating

chiefly on an elevated structure — called also *elevated railway*

el-e-vá-tion \el-ə-vá-shən/ n 1 : the height to which something

is elevated : as a : the angular distance of a celestial object above

the horizon b : the degree to which a gun is aimed above the

horizon c : the height above the level of the sea : ALTITUDE 2

: a ballet dancer's or a skater's leap and seeming suspension in the

air; also : the ability to achieve an elevation 3 : an act or instance

of elevating 4 : something that is elevated : as a : an elevated

place b : a swelling esp. on the skin 5 : the quality or state of

being elevated 6 : a geometrical projection (as of a building) on

a vertical plane *syn* see HEIGHT

el-e-vá-tor \el-ə-vát-ər/ n 1 : one that raises or lifts something

up : as a : an endless belt or chain conveyor with cleats, scoops,

or buckets for raising material b : a cage or platform and its

hoisting machinery for conveying something to different levels c

: a building for elevating, storing, discharging, and sometimes

processing grain 2 : a movable auxiliary airfoil usu. attached to

the tail plane of an airplane for producing motion up or down —

see AIRPLANE illustration

el-ev-on \el-ev-ən/ n [ME *enleven*, fr. *enleven*, *adj.*, fr. OE

endlesfan; akin to OHG *entiif* eleven; both fr. a prehistoric Gmc

compound whose first element is akin to OE *án* one, and whose

second element is prob. akin to OE *lōn* (to lend) 1 — see NUMBER

table 2 : the 11th in a set or series 3 : something having 11 units

or members; esp. : a football team — *eleven adj* or *pron* —

el-ev-enth \-ən(t)h/ *adj* or *n*

el-ev-ens-as \-ən-záz/ n *pl* but sometimes *sing* in *constr* [irreg. *pl.* of

eleven (o'clock)] *Brit* : a light lunch or sometimes only coffee or

tea taken around the middle of the morning

eleventh hour n : the latest possible time <won his reprieve at the

eleventh hour>

el-e-von \el-ə-vàn/ n (elevator + aileron) : an airplane control

surface that combines the functions of elevator and aileron

elf \elf/ n, *pl* elves \elvz/ [ME, fr. OE *alf*; akin to ON *alfr* elf]

1 : a small often mischievous fairy 2 a : a small creature; esp.

: a mischievous child b : a mischievous or malicious person —

elf-ish \el-fish/ *adj* — *elf-ish-ly* *adv*

ELF *abbr* extremely low frequency

elf-in \el-fən/ *adj* [irreg. fr. *elf*] 1 a : of, relating to, or produced

by an elf b : resembling an elf 2 : having an otherworldly or

magical quality or charm

elf-lock \el-flák/ n : hair matted as if by elves — usu. used in *pl.*

Eli \E-lí/ n (Heb *Elí*) : a judge and priest of Israel who according

to the account in I Samuel was entrusted with the care of the boy

Samuel

Eli-as \E-lí-as/ n [LL, fr. Gk *Elias*, fr. Heb *Eliydh*] : ELIJAH

elic-it \E-lis-ət/ w [L *elicitus*, pp. of *elicere*, fr. *e* + *lacere* to allure

— more at DELIGHT] 1 a : to draw forth or bring out (something

latent or potential) b : to derive (as a truth) by logical processes

2 : to call forth or draw out (a response or reaction) *syn* see EVOKE

— *elic-it-a-tion* \E-lis-ə-tá-shən, -tē- n — *elic-it-er* \E-lis-ət-ər/

n

elide \E-líd/ v *elid-ed*; *eliding* [L *elidere* to strike out, fr. *e* +

laedere to injure by striking] 1 a : to suppress or alter (as a vowel

or syllable) by elision b : to strike out (as a written word or

passage) 2 a : to leave out of consideration : OMIT b : CURTAIL,

ABRIDGE

el-i-gi-ble \el-ə-já-bəl/ *adj* [ME, fr. MF & LL; MF, fr. LL *eligibilis*,

fr. L *eligere* to choose — more at ELECT] 1 a : qualified to be

chosen : ENTITLED <~ for sophomore standing> <~ to retire> b

: permitted under football rules to catch a forward pass <an

~ receiver> 2 : worthy of being chosen : DESIRABLE <an ~ young

bachelor> — *el-i-gi-bil-i-ty* \el-ə-já-bil-ə-tē/ n — *el-ig-ible* n —

el-i-gi-bly \el-ə-já-blē/ *adv*

Eli-jah \E-lí-jə/ n (Heb *Eliydh*) : a Hebrew prophet of the 9th

century B.C. who according to the account in I Kings championed

the worship of Jehovah as against Baal

elim-i-nate \E-lím-ə-nát/ v *-nat-ed*; *-nat-ing* [L *eliminatus*, pp. of

eliminare, fr. *e* + *limin*, *limen* (threshold) 1 a : to cast out or

get rid of : REMOVE, ERADICATE <the need to ~ poverty> b : to

set aside as unimportant : IGNORE 2 : to expel (as waste) from

the living body 3 : to cause to disappear by combining two or

more equations *syn* see EXCLUDE — *elim-i-na-tion* \E-lím-ə-ná-shən/

n — *elim-i-na-tive* \E-lím-ə-nát-ív/ *adj* — *elim-i-na-tor*

\-nát-ər/ n

Eli-sha \E-lí-shə/ n (Heb *Elishá*) : a Hebrew prophet and disciple

and successor of Elijah

el-li-sion \E-líz-ən/ n [LL *elision*, *elísio*, fr. L *elísus*, pp. of *elidere*] 1

a : the use of a speech form that lacks a final or initial sound

which a variant speech form has <the use of 's' instead of 'is' in

English there's is an example of ~> b : the omission of an

unstressed vowel or syllable in a verse to achieve a uniform metrical

pattern 2 : the act or an instance of dropping out or omitting

something : OMISSION

elite \E-lít/ n [F *élite*, fr. OF *estite*, fr. fem. of *estire*, pp. of *estire*

to choose, fr. L *eligere*] 1 a : the choice part; esp. : a socially

superior group b : a powerful minority group <a power ~ inside

the government> 2 : a typewriter type providing 12 characters to

the linear inch — *elite adj*

elit-ism \E-lít-iz-əm/ n 1 a : leadership or rule by an elite b

: belief in or advocacy of such elitism 2 : consciousness of being

or belonging to an elite — *elit-ist* \E-lít-íst/ n or *adj*

elix-ir \E-lík-sər/ n [ME, fr. ML, fr. Ar *al-iksir* the elixir, fr. *al* the

+ *iksir* elixir, prob. fr. Gk *xéron* desiccative powder, fr. *xeros* dry] 1

a : a substance held capable of changing base metals into gold

: PHILOSOPHER'S STONE b (1) : a substance held capable of pro-

longing life indefinitely (2) : CURE-ALL (3) : a sweetened liquid

elevated • elongation

usu. containing alcohol that is used as a vehicle for medicinal agents

2 : the essential principle

Eliz *abbr* Elizabethan

Eliz-a-be-than \E-líz-ə-bé-than/ *adj* : of, relating to, or character-

istic of Elizabeth I of England or her age — Elizabethan n

elk \elk/ n, *pl* elks [ME, prob. fr. OE *eloh*; akin to OHG *elaho*

elk, Gk *elaphos* deer] 1 *pl* usu *elk* a : the largest existing deer

(*Alces alces*) of Europe and Asia resembling but not so large as the

moose of No. America b : WAPITI c : any of various large Asiatic

deer 2 : soft tanned rugged leather 3 *cap* [Benevolent and

Protective Order of Elks] : a member of a major benevolent and

fraternal order

elk-hound \elk-haund, 'el-kaund/ n : NORWEGIAN ELKHOUND

el-lé \el/ n [ME *ela*, fr. OE] 1 : a former English unit of length

(as for cloth) equal to 45 inches 2 : any of various units of length

similar in use to the English ell

el n [alter. of 'ell] 1 : an extension at right angles to the length

of a building 2 : an elbow in a pipe or conduit

el-lég-ic acid \ə-léj-ik-, e- n [F *ellagique*, fr. *ellag*, anagram of

galle gall] : a crystalline phenolic compound C₁₄H₆O₅ with two

lactone groupings that is obtained esp. from oak galls and some

tannins

el-líp-se \E-líp-sē, e- n [Gk *ellipseis*] 1 a

: OVAL b : a closed plane curve generat-

ed by a point moving in such a way that

the sums of its distances from two fixed

points is a constant : a plane section of a

right circular cone that is a closed curve

2 : ELLIPSES

el-líp-sis \E-líp-sis, e- n, *pl* *el-líp-ses*

\-séz/ [L, fr. Gk *ellipseis* ellipse, *ellipse*,

fr. *elipein* to leave out, fall short, fr. *en* in

+ *leipein* to leave — more at IN, LOAN] 1

a : the omission of one or more words

that are obviously understood but that

must be supplied to make a construction

grammatically complete <the man that

bees> may be changed by ~ to the man

he sees> b : a leap or sudden passage without logical connectives

from one topic to another 2 : marks or a mark (as ... or ...)

indicating the omission esp. of letters or words

el-líp-soid \E-líp-soid, e- n : a surface all plane sections of which

are ellipses or circles — *ellipsoid* or *el-líp-soid-dal* \E-líp-soid-əl,

(E)- n *adj*

el-líp-tic \E-líp-tik, e- or *el-líp-ti-cal* \E-líp-ti-kəl/ *adj* [Gk *elleiptikos*

defective, marked by ellipsis, fr. *elipein*] 1 a : of, relating to, or

shaped like an ellipse b : of, relating to, or being a space in which

no line parallel to a given line passes through a point not on the line

2 a : of, relating to, or marked by ellipsis or an ellipsis b (1)

: of, relating to, or marked by extreme economy of speech or

writing (2) : of or relating to studied obscurity of literary style —

el-líp-ti-cal-ly \E-líp-ti-kəl-ē/ *adv*

el-líp-ti-ci-ty \E-líp-ti-si-tē, (E)- n : deviation of an ellipse or a

spheroid from the form of a circle or a sphere

elm \elm/ n [ME, fr. OE; akin to

OHG *elma* elm, L *ulmus*] 1

: any of a genus (*Ulmus*) of the

family Ulmaceae, the elm family

comprising large graceful trees

with alternate stipulate leaves and

small apetalous flowers 2 : the

wood of an elm

elm bark beetle n : either of two

beetles that are vectors for the

fungus causing Dutch elm disease:

a : a beetle (*Hylurgopinus*

rufipes) native to eastern No.

America b : a European beetle

(*Scolytus multistriatus*) that is es-

tablished in eastern No. America

elm blight n : DUTCH ELM DISEASE

elm leaf beetle n : a small

orange-yellow black-striped Old

World chrysomelid beetle (*Pym-*

halta luteola) that is a leaf-eating pest of elms in eastern No.

America as a larva and as an adult

el-o-cu-tion \el-ə-kyú-shən/ n [ME *elocution*, fr. L *elocution*,

elocutio, fr. *elocutus*, pp. of *eloqui*] 1 : the art of effective public

speaking 2 : a style of speaking esp. in public — *el-o-cu-tion-ary*

\-shə-nér-ē/ *adj* — *el-o-cu-tion-ist* \-sh(ə)-míst/ n

elo-dea \E-lód-ē-ə/ n [NL, genus name, fr. Gk *hēlōdēs* marshy, fr.

helos marsh; akin to Skt *saras* pond] : any of a small American

genus (*Elodea*) of submerged aquatic monocotyledonous herbs

el-og-né \E-lóin/ w [ME *eloynen*, fr. MF *elaigner*, fr. OF, fr. ex- ex-

(fr. L <